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## **Sen. Gilbert hosts Senate Education Committee to hear local views on graduation requirements**

**LANSING** — At the invitation of Sen. Jud Gilbert, the Senate Education Committee will come to Port Huron on Friday to listen to area residents about proposed high school graduation requirements.

“I encourage Blue Water Area residents to come and offer their views on this important proposal that affects all Michigan schoolchildren,” said Gilbert, R-Algonac. “I’ve heard many good things about the proposal, but I want more input before the Senate takes this up.”

The hearing will begin at 3 p.m. on March 3 at Port Huron High School, 2215 Court St., in Port Huron. Parents, teachers and local school administrators are invited to testify.

The Senate is considering a proposal from the state superintendent and State Board of Education that would implement graduation requirements beyond the half year of civics class now required. The plan would require students to take certain courses and a certain number of years, or equivalent credit, in different subjects:

- Four of English;
- Four of math, including Algebra I and II, and geometry;
- Three of science, including a year of biology, and either physics or chemistry;
- Three of social science, including half-year each of civics and economics, and a year each of U.S. and world history;
- Two of foreign language;
- One of health and physical education; and,
- One of visual or performing arts.

Michigan is among a handful of states that have minimal statewide graduation requirements. Except for a civics class, graduation requirements are left to local school boards.

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